

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-01

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O R 291544Z AUG 75

FM USDEL ALEXANDRIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 113

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0148

USIAC

USINFO FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - KISSINGER TRIP

1. ALL PAPERS ON AUGUST 29 REPORT WITH VARYING DEGREES OF CERTAINTY THAT SECOND DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD WILL BE INITIALED ON SUNDAY. AL-AHRAM QUOTES OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN BASHIR THAT, FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN ALEXANDRIA THURSDAY, "ACCORD'S PENDING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED" AND THAT "PROGRESS FURTHER TO WEDNESDAY'S (PROGRAM) WAS ACHIEVED." BASHIR SAID THAT ONE OR PARAGRAPHS ARE STILL UNDER DISCUSSION. AL-AHRAM ALSO QUOTES PRESIDENT SADAT'S PRESS STATEMENT THAT "GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL BE NEXT STEP," AND SECRETARY AS SAYING THAT ACCORD "DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY U. . COMMITMENTS TO ISRAEL." SECRETARY, AL-AHRAM REPORTS, WILL RETURN TO ALEXANDRIA FRIDAY "TO DISCUSS U.S. PROJECT FOR EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN SINAI AND MANNER IN WHICH U.S. TECHNICIANS WILL OPERATE."

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WM APART FROM SUMMARIZING BASHIR'S PRESS STATEMENTS OF AUGUST

28, AL-AKHBAR FRONTPAGES PREDICTION THAT GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL CONVEY "WITHIN DAYS AFTER SIGNING ACCORD TO WORK ON TIME TABLE FOR ACCORD IMPLEMENTATION AND DISCUSS NEXT STEPS TOWARD ME PEACE." AL-GOMHURIYA REPORTS THAT SECRETARY RETURNED TO ALEXANDRIA THURSDAY WITH "ISRAEL'S REPLY TO SIX CLAUSES THAT GOE HAD REPHRASED." PAPER ADDS THAT EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION WILL RETURN TO WITHDRAWAL AREAS AND BUFFER ZONE.

3. ALL PAPERS PUBLISH BASIR STATEMENT THAT, UNDER NEW ACCORD, NO ISRAELI SHIPS WILL PASS ACROSS SUEZ CANAL, AND THAT SUCH PASSAGE IS LINKED TO OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF ME PROBLEM. PAPERS ALSO REPRODUCE ALMOST FULL TEXTS OF AUGUST 28 PRESS CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY.

4. PRESS CONTINUES TO COVER DELIBERATIONS IN ISRAEL WITH EMPHASIS ON EARLY WARNING SYSTEM. ON BASIS OF WIRE DISPATCHES, AL-AHRAM QUOTES U.S. GOV OFFICIALS AS SAYING THAT ROLE AND NUMBER OF U.S. TECHNICIANS ARE AMONG PENDING ISSUES. AL-AHRAM AND AL-GOMHURIYA REPORT THAT STATIONS WILL BE STAFFED WITH TOTAL OF 200 U.S. TECHNICIANS, AND THAT 100 OF THEM WILL SERVE AS TECHNICAL OBSERVERS, MEANWHILE FEATURE BY AL-AHRAM'S DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT HAMDY FOUAD REPORTS THAT "ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NUMBER OF EXPERTS WILL NOT EXCEED 20, UNLESS WE ADD REPLACEMENTS AND RESERVES." ACCORDING TO WIRE SERVICES QUOTED BY AL-AKHBAR, "POSITION OF U.S. TECHNICIANS IS LATEST OF PROBLEMS SECRETARY IS TRYING TO SETTLE." AL-GOMHURIYA QUOTES REFERENCE BY "DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN JERUSALEM" TO PROBLEMS OF FIXING NUMBER OF U.S. TECHNICIANS, AND VIEW THAT GOE "CONSIDERS (SUGGESTED) NUMBER MORE THAN NECESSARY." SAME SOURCES SAID GOE HAS SELECTED SITE OF ITS STATION AND THAT CONSTRUCTION WILL NOT EXCEED ONE YEAR.

5. BOTH AL-AHRAM AND AL-GOMHURIYA REPORT SECRETARY'S DISCUSSION OF U.S. AID WHILE IN ISRAEL. AL-GOMHURIYA INDICATES THAT ISRAEL REQUESTED THREE BILLION DOLLARS IN RETURN FOR SIGNING ACCORD, BUT U.S. SOURCES SAID IT WILL GET ONLY ONE BILLION. ONLY AL-GOMHURIYA REPORTS GOI-SUGGESTED, TELEPHONE-OPERATED PUBLIC OPINION POLL IN WHICH 55 PERCENT OF RESPONDERS APPROVED ACCORD, UNCLASSIFIED

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WHILE 38 PERCENT REJECTED IT.

6. EDITORIALY, AL-AHRAM EMPHASIZES THAT ACCORD IS BEING REACHED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF GOE COMMITMENT TO LIBERATE ARAB LANDS AND GUARANTEE PALESTINIAN POLITICAL RIGHTS. AL-AHRAM'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ALI HAMI EL-GAMMAL SAYS THAT "IF U.S. HISTORY IN (ME) REGION IS (WITNESS) AGAINST IT RATHER THAN FOR IT, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE SHOULD REMAIN ON NO TALKING TERMS WITH

U. . AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT INVOLVE IT IN REACHING JUST AND  
PERMANENT PEACE IN ME." EL-GAMMAL CALLS "MINORITY" WHICH  
CRITITICIZES GOE POLICIES "THINKING WITH MENTALITY THAT  
STILL BELONGS TO PAST AND UNABLE TO DEVELOP AND UNDERSTAND  
INTERNATIONAL VARIABLES." EL-GAMMAL ALSO EMPHASIZES THAT  
"TALKING TO U. . DOES NOT MEAN DETENTE WITH ISRAEL." IN WEEKLY  
FRONTPAGE COLUMN, AL-AHRAM'S BOARD CHAIRMAN IHSAN ABDEL-KODDOS  
THINKS THAT SIGNING ACCORD WILL NOT CHANGE GOE'S GENERAL POSITION  
TOWARD ISRAEL, AND THAT "CEASING FIRE DOES NOT MEAN CEASING  
WAR." AL-AKHBAR'S MAIN EDITORIAL PRAISES NEW ACCORD WHICH  
"WILL RETURN NEW LAND AND OILFIELDS TO EGYPT."  
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## Message Attributes

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